

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-14 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-09 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 T-03

OMB-01 AID-20 SR-02 ORM-03 IO-12 RSR-01 DPW-01 /117 W

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R 210440 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8943

USDEL FRANCE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 4614

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, PLUS 51, MARCH 20

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SAIGON DATED MAR 20, 1973 RPTD FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DANANG 248

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, VS

SUBJ: CEASEFIRE AND POLITICAL SITREP MR I, X PLUS 51, MARCH
20, 1973

1. CEASEFIRE REORGANIZATION:

A. FIRST REGIONAL ASSISTANCE COMMAND HELD BRIEF STAND- DOWN
CEREMONY ON MARCH 20, 1973 AT I CORPS HEADQUARTERS.

B. THE MAYOR OF DANANG HAS SCHEDULED AN OFFICIAL TRIBUTE
TO AMERICAN ARMED FORCES FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 25.

2. MILITARY SITUATION:

THE NUMBER OF INCIDENTS FELL TO A TOTAL OF 33, OF WHICH 27 WERE
ATTACKS BY FIRE(ABF). IN THE AIRBORNE AO, INCIDENTS FELL TO THE
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LOWEST LEVEL SINCE 28 JANUARY: 1 ABF WITH 10 MORTAR ROUNDS. FIRST DIVISION AO TOOK 16 ABFS, WITH A TOTAL OF 520 ROUNDS OF MORTAR FIRE. ACTIVITY WAS MODERATE IN 3 RD DIVISION AO WITH ABFS IN GO NOI ISLAND, " ARIZONA TERRITORY", AND QUE SON AREAS. RVN INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT 2 ND NVA DIVISION CONTINUES PREPARATIONS FOR POSSIBLE ATTACK IN SA HUYNH AREA. STATISTICS FOR THE REPORTING PERIOD ARE AS FOLLOWS: FRIENDLY CASUALTIES 7 KIA, 2 MIA; ENEMY CASUALTIES 10 KIA, 2 CAPTURED. FRIENDLY ARTILLERY FIRED A TOTAL OF 2,887 ROUNDS; 697 NORTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS, 2,190 SOUTH. FOR THE FIFTH STRAIGHT DAY, THERE WERE NO NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT MISSIONS OR TACTICAL AIR SORTIES REPORTED.

3. COMMUNIST MILITARY ACTIVITIES:

ARVN INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT ARVN POWS WHO WERE LOCATED IN VAN LY HAMLET AREA OF DUC PHO DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI, HAVE BEEN SEEN MOVING IN A WESTERLY DIRECTION. CONGEN COMMENT: VAN LY HAMLET AREA WAS TO HAVE BEEN THE SITE FOR A PRISONER RELEASE ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 11. END COMMENT.

4. REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT:

DURING PAST WEEK, APPROXIMATELY 1,300 CAO DAI DEPARTED CHU LAI, QUANG TIN, BY SHIP FOR RESETTLEMENT IN PHUOC THUY PROVINCE. THE MOVEMENT HAD BEEN UNDER CONSIDERATION FOR THE PAST SIX MONTHS. OVER HALF THE PEOPLE CAME FROM THE MOUNTAIN DISTRICT OF HAU DUC, WHERE THEY HAD BEEN LIVING FOR YEARS AS REFUGEES FROM OUTLYING VALLEYS CONTROLLED BY THE COMMUNISTS. QUANG TIN POLOFF REPORTS THAT THE LOCAL CAO DAI CHURCH MAY MOVE MORE PEOPLE SOUTH IF INITIAL REPORTS FROM PHUOC THUY ARE FAVORABLE. BROWN UNQUOTE BUNKER

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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